

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a data processing system wherein the waste of use of each storage area by ECC codes is avoided to improve or increase the number of assurances for rewriting of information stored in a non-volatile memory.

A data processing system (1) has an erasable and programmable non-volatile memory (5) and a central processing unit (2). The central processing unit allows only a specified partial storage area (20Ba) of the non-volatile memory to be intended for a software ECC process. Since ECC codes are added to the partial storage area alone and an error correction is made thereto to thereby increase the number of rewrite assurances, substantially needless waste of each storage area by ECC codes can be avoided as compared with a configuration in which the ECC codes are added to all the write data without distinction regardless of the storage areas. Further, since software copes with ECC processing, ECC correcting capability matched with a device characteristic of the non-volatile memory can easily be selected.